(d) and (e) The Central Government, in June, 2006, has decided to enhance the cooking cost norm from existing Re. 1 per child per school day to Rs. 1.50 subject to mandatory contribution of minimum fifty paise by States & UTs to reach the overall cost norm of Rs. 2. For the States of North-Eastern Region, the Central assistance would be Rs. 1.80 per child per school day with mandatory minimum contribution of twenty paise by them.

In addition to the above, where convergence with other programmes is not feasible, assistance for construction of kitchen-cum-store and cooking/kitchen devices would be provided from the funds of the Scheme.

Unemployment of trained teachers

620. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of trained teachers in the country are facing the problem of unemployment due to inadequate employment opportunities;

(b) if so, the State-wise details thereof;

(c) whether Government have formulated any action plan with a view to provide them with adequat employment opportunities; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) This information is not Centrally maintained.

(c) The prevalent conditions differ from State to State and the States are free to take appropriate action in this regard.

Setting up of public colleges

621. SHRI ABU ASIMAZMI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal under active consideration of Government to set up Public Colleges on the pattern of Public Schools in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when such colleges would be set up, State-wise; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Curriculum of private schools

622. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the curriculum are prepared and pursued independently by schools run by various organizations especially religious organizations in the country;

(b) if so, the State-wise details of number of such schools in the country;

(c) whether Government are aware that factual errors and distortions are found in the syllabi particularly in History being taught in some of these schools;

(d) if so, whether Government have evolved any mechanism to monitor the situation;

(e) whether there are any proposals to bring uniform syllabus in schools across the country; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Most of the States/Union Territories have their own Examination Boards which prescribe syllabi and textbooks for schools affiliated to these Boards. The respective State Directorates along with State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERT) prepare textbooks. Schools affiliated to Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) follow the curriculum prescribed by CBSE for classes 9 to 12 and the curriculum prepared by NCERT for classes 1 to 8. Some Schools* run by religious or